LETTER

FROM

FISHER and JOHNSON

TO

Tyburn JACK-KETCH *the* TURN-KEYS *and* GOALERS *of*

NEWGATE.

Good Friends.

WE are of the Opinion that you take us for a Couple of Ill-bred unmannerly Fellows, for making ſo Clandeſtine an Elopement, without ſo much as once bidding farewell; but when you come to conſider, you can't but commend our Ingenuity, and Ingenuouſly Confeſs that ſelf-preſervation is the firſt Principle of Nature; which being granted you muſt Acknowledge that 'twas much more to our Satisfaction to mount the Scaffold than the Cart, and that we had much rather Deſcend the Ladder than aſcend the Gallows; Our Lives are as dear to us, as yours can be to any one of you, my litle *Rogues?* O, how nimbly did we therefore ſcale the Wales of Newgate, had the Spaniards but mounted the Ramparts or Rocks of Gibraltar with half the Vivacity they had been Maſters of it long ſince.

When we came to the Bottom of the Ladder we were glad at the Black Dogg, to leave you the Dogg to hold, and thought it a much cheaper way of Travelling to walk up Cheapſide, than to ride up Holbourn Hill. Being come to St. Mary le Bow we were well pleas'd to trip it by there in the Dark, and thank'd God, that we were not then taking a Leap in the Dark. At the Poultrey we did not ſtay to robb Hen-rouſt and being come to the Compter we bruſhed by, leaſt we might be there call'd to Account; Having eſcaped ſo far we went forward till we came to Stocks Market, were we had, by an unlucky Fellow, like to have been put in the Stocks; However, we made ſhift to reach the Royal Exchange, where, we rejoye'd at our lucky Exchange of Liberty for Confinement.

After which coming to Grace-church ſtreet we had the Grace to turn down there, but more Grace than to return back again, we paſſ'd by Leaden-Hall Market, but walked not as if we had lead in our Heels. Being come to the Monument and ſeeing the End of Crooked Lane, we were glad that by Hook or Crook we had eſcap'd your Clutches; After this arriving at London-Bridge, we were glad that our Noſes were made Bridges of, and our Tryals likely to be abridged to nothing: But above all we can't forbear letting you know how heartily we laugh'd when we came to St. Tooley's to think what Tools we had made of you, but however, we did not ſtay long leaſt we our ſelves ſhould be made Fools; Having paſſ'd St. Thooly's we came to the Grange among the Tanners not a little rejoycing that Jack-Ketch had not gotten our Hides to Tann: In Barnaby's ſtreet we ſung Barnaby Barnaby Take it for a Warning &c. From thence coming to Long Lane we pray'd God we might not have a Turning, leaſt we ſhould be turn'd off the Cart. Coming to Graves-End we liked that End far better than the End of a Rope. As we paſſ'd thro' Rocheſter ſtroud & Chatham we wiſhed you ratted and ſtarv'd if we did not Cheat you all. Coming to Canterbury we did not ſtay to tell Canterbury ſtories, but went directly to Dover, where the Yatch being ready did Quickly carry us over to France, where we may ſkip and Leap while you like Fools in queſt of us do Dance.

So to Turnkeys and Goalers, we now bid adeiu,
And Wiſh Jack Ketch for us, would be pleas'd to hang you.

To Jack-Ketch and Turnkeys &c.
Yours, H. Fiſher & R. Johnſon.

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